

As you are probably aware, the California Association of Collection Agencies sponsored the present laws wherein all collection agencies are now licensed by and bonded to the State, and are under direct supervision of the State Superintendent of Collection Agencies. In addition, if the medical fraternity will cooperate by reporting unethical or unsatisfactory actions on the part of collection agents, the Association will lend its assistance to the State authorities in effecting corrections.

Respectfully,
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF COLLECTION AGENCIES.
By Louis Spencer, President.
Income Securities Building, Oakland.

Concerning "Tuberculosis Subsidy" Assembly Bills 1927 and 1928:

To the Editor:—I enclose herewith a copy of a resolution presented to the Trudeau Society of Los Angeles at its regular meeting Tuesday February 26.

Very truly,
CARL R. HOWSON, M. D.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, For the past twenty years there have been paid to the counties (or cities) of the State of California from State funds a subsidy of \$3 per week for every indigent patient cared for in a tuberculosis ward or hospital by said counties; and

WHEREAS, There have been introduced into the California Legislature two bills, A. 1927 and A. 1928, which have for their purpose the removal of the present legal requirement that such tuberculosis wards or hospitals shall conform to the regulations of, and be approved by, the State Bureau of Tuberculosis before such State aid shall be forthcoming; and

WHEREAS, During the twenty years of its existence it has been conclusively demonstrated that the enforcement of this requirement has been the most important single factor in the improvement of the provision for and the treatment of these patients throughout the State, and the attainment of the present high standards for their care; and

WHEREAS, The removal of this restriction will not only increase the payments from the State treasury, but will also open the way for possible serious abuses; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Trudeau Society of Los Angeles is of the opinion that the passage of these bills would inevitably tend to lower the quality of care given these unfortunate sick, and would render further improvements in their care in public institutions extremely difficult; and be it further

Resolved, That we request our representatives in the Assembly and Senate to vigorously oppose the passage of these bills.

Concerning article in February issue:

To the Editor:—Referring to the paper on "Pharyngo-Esophageal Diverticulum, Pulsion Type" by Doctor Ziegelman, on pages 85 to 90 of the February, 1935, issue, he quotes a letter by Lord Moynihan.

There is an error in the quotation of Moynihan's letter as published in *Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics*, page 128 of the January, 1932, issue, in reference to the Laimer-Haackermann area. To quote Lord Moynihan correctly would be as follows:

"It is Laimer, who was prosecutor at Graz, and Haackermann, now of Bremen, in whom interest centers. The 'point' to which Doctor McEvers refers is not a point, but an area. The 'Lainer-Hackermann point' becomes, therefore, the 'Laimer-Haackermann area.'"

It is true that these two names have been misspelled in the literature and also in the medical dictionaries. In The American Illustrated Medical Dictionary (Dorland), thirteenth edition, published in 1925, the names are given as "Lannier-Hackerman area."

To correct the spelling of these names, they become *Laimer* and *Haackermann*.

I am writing only to call attention to the incorrect spelling of the names of both *Laimer* and *Haackermann*.

A. E. McEVERS, M. D.

1930 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles.

Concerning Pan-American Medical Association cruise to Rio Janeiro:

To the Editor:—Enclosed find a news item concerning the Pan-American Medical Association which I am asking you to publish in *CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE*. You must realize the importance of this great Pan-American movement. The officials of the parent organization as well as myself will appreciate your publishing this.

Very sincerely yours,

CHARLES P. MATHÉ, M. D.

"The Pan-American Medical Association, which embraces the leading physicians and surgeons of the Western Hemisphere, will meet in New York to board the steamship *Columbia* of the Panama Pacific Line. The 40,000-ton luxury liner, the largest ever to cruise to South America, is being redecorated, and could accommodate one thousand passengers in the atmosphere of a smart beach club.

The ship will sail from New York on July 18, returning to New York on August 28. The itinerary will be as follows: New York, Havana, Curacao, five days at Rio de Janeiro (where a scientific congress will be held), three days at Santos (for attending a scientific convention at Sao Paulo), returning via Trinidad, Santo Domingo, Kingston (Jamaica), Havana, and New York.

During the voyage scientific meetings in all branches of medicine will be conducted. This will give an excellent opportunity for physicians, while enjoying an ideal summer holiday, to meet with and hear lectures by the leaders of the profession in all sections of surgery and medicine.

The Brazilian Government has suggested August for the congress there, as this is the time of the year that the climate is most delightful. His Excellency, Dr. Getulio Vargas, President of the Republic of Brazil, has expressed his pleasure at the selection of Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo for the congress and the opportunity his country will have of being the host to the members of the Pan-American Medical Association. . . .

Apart from deriving definite scientific advantages from the cruise, the medical men will establish social contacts of lasting value to Pan-American relations and visit Rio de Janeiro, known as the most beautiful of all cities, with its famous Oswaldo Cruz Institute of Tropical Medicine; Santos, with its bathing beaches at the height of the season; Sao Paulo, with its world-renowned University and Instituto Sero-Therapeutico for the study of reptiles and poisons.

An inaugural dinner officially announcing the plans will be given by the Pan-American Medical Association on March 1 on board the steamship *Columbia* in honor of His Excellency, Dr. Oswaldo Aranha, Brazilian Ambassador to the United States.

Previous congresses of this association have been held in Havana (1929), Panama City (1930), Mexico, D. F. (1931), Dallas (1933). Last year a "floating congress," similar to the coming congress, was held in which 560 physicians, their families and friends took a cruise, visiting Cuba, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, and Puerto Rico. The scientific meeting at Maracay, Venezuela, and the hospitality of His Excellency, General Juan Vicente Gomez, President of the Republic of Venezuela, were important features of last year's congress. . . .

Thomas Cook and Son will be general managers of the cruise. The prices will range from \$450 for the forty-day cruise.

For further information, write to Pan-American Medical Association, 745 Fifth Avenue, New York City."

SERA IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

A Summary of the Program Being Put Into Effect for the Medical Care of the Unemployed by the L. A. C. R. A., Coöperating with the Los Angeles County Medical Association.

Provisions for the medical care of the unemployed in Los Angeles County have been made.

The importance of this movement, in which State and Federal funds shall pay for medical services to be rendered to a considerable portion of our citizenry, should be appreciated by every physician.

In Los Angeles County, the Los Angeles County Relief Administration (L. A. C. R. A.) coöperating with the County Medical Association, will administer this emergency program under the supervision of the SERA (State Emergency Relief Administration).

Louis Boonshaft, M. D., has been appointed medical director of this service, with offices at 741 South Flower Street.

On February 6, to help expedite the formation of a panel of physicians and surgeons, the Los Angeles